

Issue 5

February 2010



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

U.S. Route 63 Environmental Impact Statement

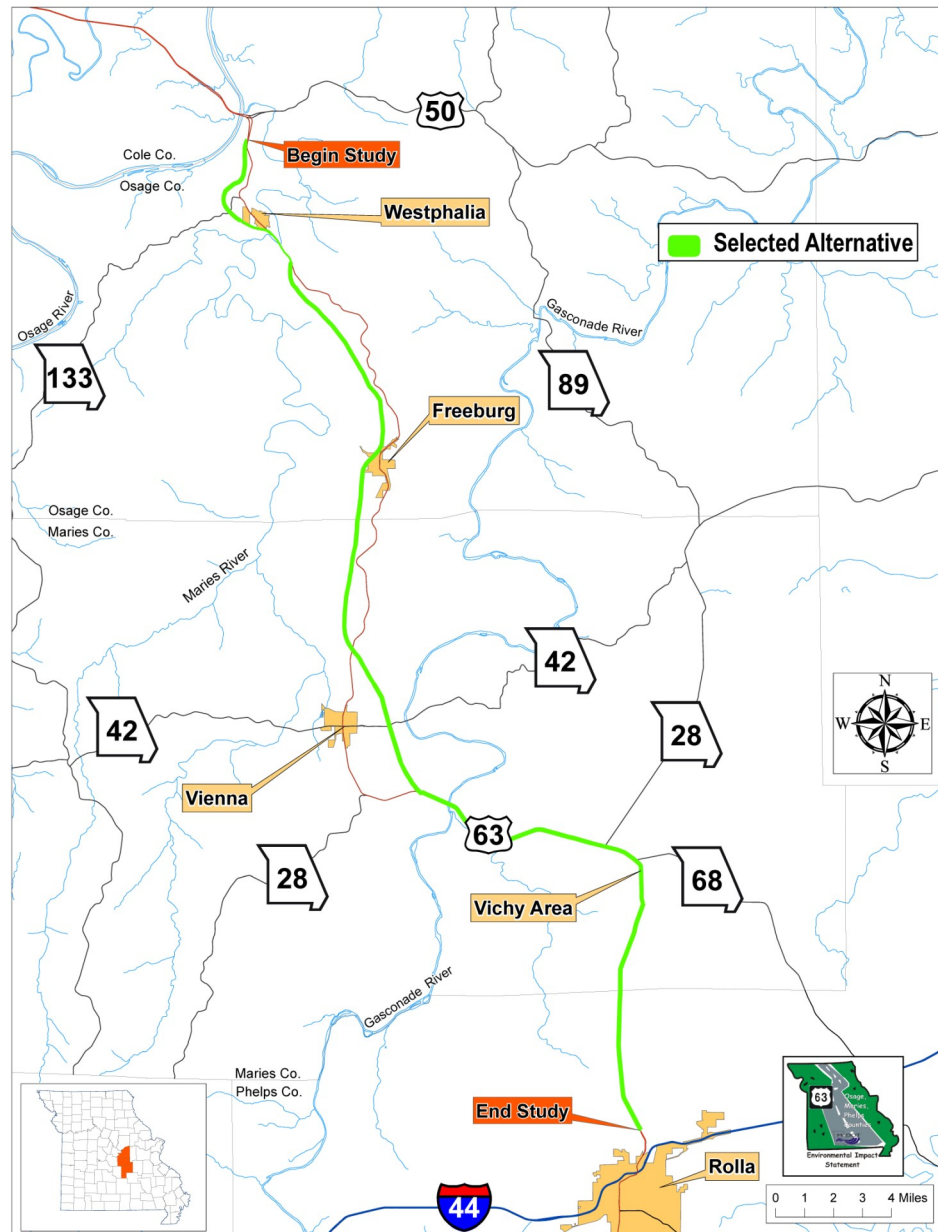
Study Completed

Federal Highway Administration Approves and Signs Record of Decision

It's been three years since the Missouri Department of Transportation began its environmental and location study for U.S. Route 63 in Osage, Maries, and Phelps Counties, and that study has now been completed. The Federal Highway Administration approved and signed a Record of Decision in February 2010. The selected alternative is pictured below.

The U.S. Route 63 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) began in November 2006 to evaluate transportation needs along the 47-mile stretch of U.S. Route 63, from a half mile south of the U.S. Route 50/63 junction in Osage County to just north of Rolla. The approved environmental document details what improvements are needed to correct roadway deficiencies, reduce congestion, improve safety and provide continuity along the U.S. Route 63 corridor.

For further details or to view a copy of the approved study document, log onto www.modot.org/central. You may also contact a member of the study team with your questions at 1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636).



What's Next?

Mapping and Aerial Photography

Now that the Record of Decision is signed, mapping and aerial photography work will immediately take place to allow MoDOT to begin the preliminary highway design process. Visual “targets” with set coordinates will be placed temporarily along the corridor from the junction of U.S. Route 50 to the Gasconade River and aerial photographs will be taken. These visual targets do not necessarily represent the location of the actual highway. As part of the mapping process, the aerial images are later used to create a 3-D model that highway designers use during detailed design. Approximately 200 visual targets will be used for mapping along the U.S. Route 63 corridor.

Detailed Design

No timeline has been announced for detailed design work for most of the corridor. Currently, design funding has only been identified for the Phelps County portion of the study area. When design does move forward, MoDOT will hold another round of public meetings to gather public input about the highway design details. Property owners will see corridor alignments and be able to comment on the layout of the new highway.



Visual targets are placed along the corridor for aerial photography work.

Prioritizing Future Construction and Identifying Funding

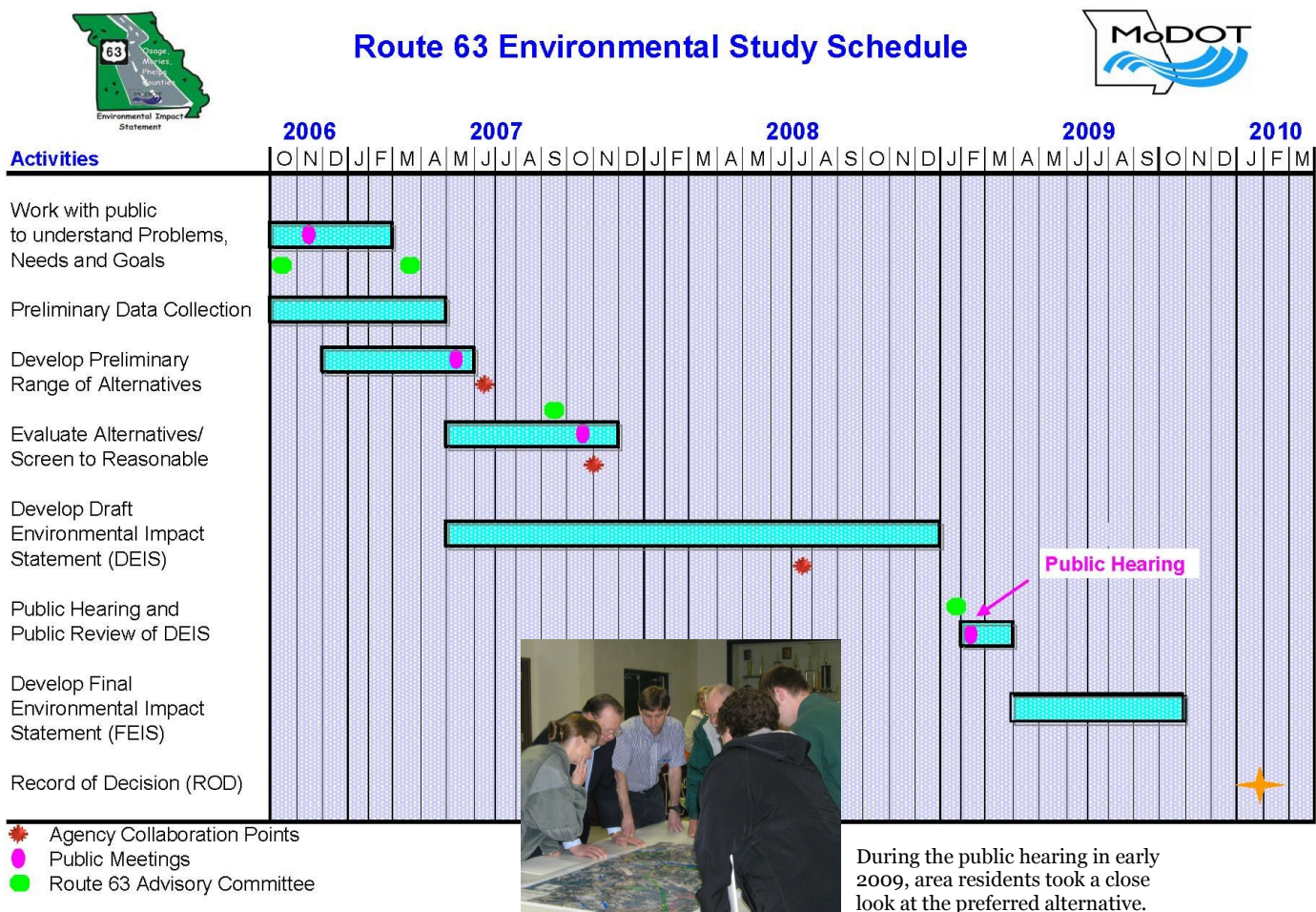
Prioritizing Future Construction and Identifying Funding

While funding has not currently been identified for any construction work to take place, MoDOT has worked with the local transportation planning organization, the Meramec Regional Planning Commission (MRPC), to prioritize seven segments of the U.S. Route 63 corridor for future consideration should funding become available. MRPC's prioritized segments in order are:

- south of Vichy to Rolla
- U.S. 50/63 junction to just south of Westphalia at the Maries River (includes route relocation at Westphalia)
- south of Westphalia to south of County Road 632
- south of County Road 632 to 2.5 miles south of Paydown Rd. (includes route relocation at Freeburg)
- south of Paydown Rd. to just north of Gasconade River (includes route relocation at Vienna)
- north of Gasconade River to south of Route 28 near the Vichy Airport
- south of Route 28 to south of Vichy (includes widening through Vichy)

The order in which work progresses is ultimately dependent on funding and area needs. Any updates related to improving the U.S. Route 63 corridor will be updated at www.modot.org/central.

Study Schedule Recap



Contact Us For More Information

Call Us Toll Free

Please remember that you can contact us at any time with your questions about the U.S. Route 63 corridor. A study team member can generally be reached during normal business hours, which are Monday—Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Just call us toll free at 1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636).



We're on the Web

The U.S. Route 63 Environmental Impact Statement is available on the Web at www.modot.org/central. You can also e-mail us questions or comments from our Web site.



**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION**

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What's Inside:

- **Study Completed**

The Federal Highway Administration approves and signs a Record of Decision.

- **What's Next?**

Mapping and aerial photography work begins in preparation for eventual detailed design.

- **Prioritizing Future Construction and Identifying Funding**

Corridor segments are prioritized by the local planning organization. Construction funding is not yet available.

- **Study Schedule Recap**

The completed schedule provides a timeline of study activities over the last three years.

- **Contact Information**

Study team members are available to assist with your questions.

